Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAM-01 /065 W

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R 120641Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3095

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INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

CONFIDENTIAL BELGRADE 2973

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT YO PO

SUBJ: MODERATING YUGOSLAV INFLUENCE ON PORTUGAL: INTERNAL

PORTUGUESE POLITICAL SITUATION

- 1. DURING AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR (RAMOS DA COSTA), LATTER INDICATED THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE COUNSELED PATIENCE AND RESTRAINT WITH RESPECT TO PORTUGUESE RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO AND HAVE NOT TRIED TO INDUCE PORTUGAL TO MOVE AWAY FROM NATO TOWARDS A NON-ALIGNED STANCE. HE ATTRIBUTED YUGOSLAV VIEW TO THEIR PERCEPTION THAT PORTUGAL ALREADY HAS ENOUGH INTERNAL PROBLEMS.
- 2. IN DISCUSSION OF PORTUGUESE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE RAMOS DA COSTA SAID THERE WERE NO COMMUNISTS AMBASSADORS IN SERVICE.

 APPARENTLY GOP'S ORIGINAL CHOICE FOR AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW WAS REJECTED BY SOVIETS AS INSTANCE OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY BECUASE CANDIDATE WAS A SOCIALIST. IN RESULTING COMPROMISE A NON-COMMUNIST, NON-SOCIALIST LEFISTS OF SAME POLITICAL PERSUASION OF AMBASSADOR WHO WAS SENT TO HAVANA WAS CHOSEN FOR MOSCOW.

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3. THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT IN A MEETING WITH HIS PRESIDENT IN APRIL HE RECEIVED CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI WAS WELL REGARDED IN PORTUGAL AS A MAN WHO COULD BE TRUSTED.

4. ON INTERNAL PORTUGUESE AFFAIRS RAMOS DA COSTA SEEMED QUITE CONFIDENT ABOUT SURVIVAL OF SOCIALIST PARTY (OF WHICH HE IS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS) AND OF DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURESE IN PORTUGAL. HE DID NOT THINK THAT THE SOCIALISTS HAD COTTONED UP ENOUGH TO THE MILITARY BUT FELT THAT THE FIGHT OVER THE NEWSPAPER CLOSING WAS AN ESSENTIAL ONE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, AMBASSADORS, COMMUNISTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 12 JUN 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BFL GRA02973

Document Number: 1975BELGRA02973 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: D750204-1021 From: BELGRADE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750654/aaaabwwm.tel Line Count: 73

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 21 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MODERATING YUGOSLAV INFLUENCE ON PORTUGAL: INTERNAL PORTUGUESE POLITICAL SITUATION

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YO, PO To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006